

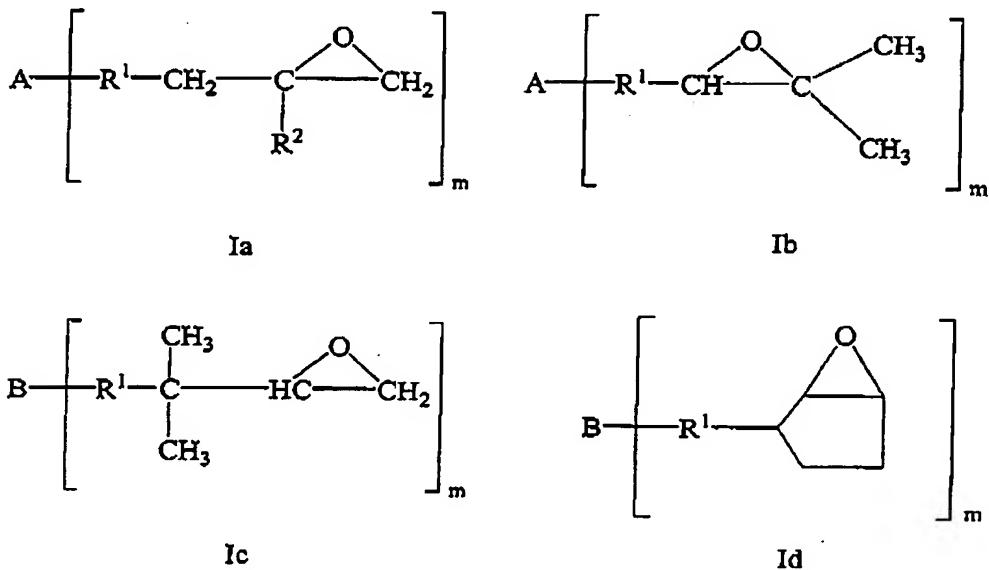
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

**Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing a polyisobutene (thio)ether or thioether by reacting a polyisobutene epoxide having at least one terminal epoxide group with**

- i) itself,
- ii) other epoxides and/or
- iii) nucleophiles selected from among the group consisting of alcohols and thiols, in the presence of
  - a) a Lewis-acid compound as catalyst and/or
  - b) a cationic photoinitiator with illumination.

**Claim 2 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polyisobutene epoxide has one of the formulae Ia to Id**



where A is hydrogen or the radical of an inifer molecule, B is chlorine or the radical of a coupling agent, R<sup>1</sup> is a chain comprising isobutene units, R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen or methyl and m is an integer from 1 to 6, preferably 1, 2 or 3.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the Lewis-acid compound is selected from among the group consisting of halides and sulfonates of boron, aluminum, gallium, antimony, titanium, tin, vanadium, iron and the rare earth metals.

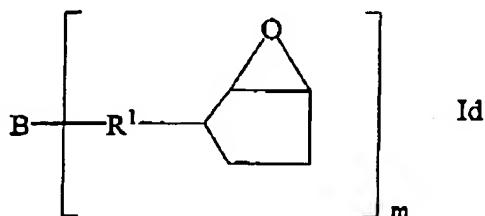
Claim 4 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process as claimed in claim [[3]] 1, wherein the Lewis-acid compound is selected from among the group consisting of boron trifluoride, boron trichloride, aluminum chloride, iron trichloride and titanium tetrachloride.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the cationic photoinitiator is selected from among the group consisting of sulfonium and iodonium salts.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): [[A]] The process as claimed in any of the preceding claims claim 1, wherein the alcohol or thiol contains at least two hydroxyl and/or mercapto groups.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A polyisobutetyl (thio)ether obtainable ether or thioether obtained by [[a]] the process as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6 claim 1.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A polyisobutenyl (thio)ether obtainable ether or thioether obtained by the process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polyisobutene epoxide of has the formula Id as set forth in claim 2



wherein B is chlorine or the radical of a coupling agent, R<sup>1</sup> is a chain comprising isobutene units and m is an integer of 1-6.

Claim 9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (New): The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein m is 1, 2 or 3.

Claim 11 (New): The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the Lewis-acid compound is selected from the group consisting of halides and sulfonates of boron, aluminum, gallium, antimony, titanium, tin, vanadium, iron and the rare earth metals.

Claim 12 (New): The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the Lewis-acid compound is selected from the group consisting of boron trifluoride, boron trichloride, aluminum chloride, iron trichloride and titanium tetrachloride.

Claim 13 (New): The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the cationic photoinitiator is selected from the group consisting of sulfonium and iodonium salts.

**Claim 14 (New):** The process as claimed in claim 2, wherein the alcohol or thiol contains at least two hydroxyl and/or mercapto groups.

**Claim 15 (New):** A polyisobutetyl ether or thioether obtained by the process as claimed in claim 2.